was on general deficiency in the working of the branch. Suitable action has been taken by the bank, in these cases. State Bank of India has reported that the general efficiency rating of the branch was rated "well" in the last inspection and audit of the branch. The branch has also conducted Customer Relation Programmes/Customers Service Meets at regular intervals. The Branch Manager has also been advised to make constant efforts for bringing further improvement in the functioning of the Branch especially in the area of customer service.

(c) and (d) It is the constant endeavour of the banks to extend better services to the customers.

Tax evasion by MNCs

2523. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tax evasion of more than Rs. 20 crores by some Multi-National Companies (MNCs) has been detected in surveys conducted by the Income Tax Department;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the various MNCs involved in the evasion; and

(c) what steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken for recovery of this amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) to (c) The offices of some foreign companies were surveyed by the Income Tax authorities in connection with non-deduction and non-payment of Taxes deducted at Source. The name of the companies are given in the Statement. *(See* below) These companies have paid a total sum of Rs. 85.47 crores till now as a result of the Surveys.

Statement

S.No.	Name of the Companies
1.	L.G. Electronics
2.	Samsung Electronics
3.	The Bank of Tokyo—Mitsubishi Ltd.
4.	The Sakura Bank Ltd.
5.	Japan Airlines
6.	Lufthansa Airlines
7.	Sanwa Bank Ltd., New Delhi
8.	National Panasonic
9.	Matsushita Electric Co., New Delhi
10.	Nisaho Iwai Corpn.
11.	Mitsubishi Corpn.
12.	Business India Television Int. Ltd.
13.	Asian Hotels Ltd.
14.	Ericsson Communication P. Ltd.
15.	All Nippon Airways Co. Ltd.
16.	Anntsu Corpn.
17.	Hyundai Corpn.
18.	IHI
19.	Dunso India
20.	Fuji Bank Ltd.
21.	EPDC
22.	Japan Broadcasting Corp.
23.	Alcatel Modi Network Systems
24.	Alcatel South Asia Pacific Ltd.
25.	Cegalac India Ltd.
26.	Cegelac India Ltd. (Noida Office)
27.	EDS—Electronic Data System
28.	I K E A
29.	Hyundai Engg. & Construction Co.
30.	Daewoo Motors India Ltd.

Representation for increase in import duty on sugar

2524. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:
SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have received any representation from sugar industry demanding imposition of 150 per cent import duty on sugar imports instead of 5 per cent as at present;

(b) if so, the details of representation received; and

(c) the action Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) and (b) The Government have received several representations from sugar industry demanding increase in import duty on sugar. The demands are for increasing import duty to various levels.

(c) The representations for increasing import duty on sugar are under examination of the Government.

Proposal of World Bank assistance for drinking water projects in Gujarat

2525. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal regarding World Bank assistance for drinking water projects in Gujarat, particularly in Kutch-Saurashtra region is under consideration of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Opening of Branches of NABARD

2526. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) which were proposed to be opened in the country particularly in Gujarat during 1996-97 and 1997-98;

(b) the number of branches opened out of these alongwith their locations, State-wise;

(c) whether Government propose to open some more branches of NABARD during 1998-99; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M. R. JANARTHANAN): (a) and (b) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) does not have any branch office concept. It has set up 25 Regional Offices, one Sub-Office and Srinagar Cell at Srinagar. State-wise details of Regional Offices of NABARD are furnished at Statement-I. *(See* below) In addition NABARD has posted District Development Managers (DDMs) in 256 districts in various States as given at Statement-II. *((See* below) During the year 1996-97, a total number of 18 DDMs were posted in various States. No DDM was posted in Gujarat in 1996-97. No DDM office was opened in the year 1997-98.

(c) and (d) NABARD has contemplated to set up 25 DDM offices during the year 1998-99 in different States. Details of DDM offices proposed to be opened during 1998-99 are given in Statement-Ill.

Statement-I

State-wise details of the Regional Offices of NABARD

Sr. No	State/Union Territory	Location of Regional Offices
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad
2.	Assam	Guwahati
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	Itnagar
4.	Bihar	Patna
5.	New Delhi	New Delhi
6.	Goa	Panaji
7.	Gujarat	Ahmdabad
8.	Haryana/Punjab	Chandigarh
9.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu
11.	Karnataka	Bangalore
12.	Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram